

**281—103.9(256B,280) Seclusion room requirements.** Schools must meet the following standards for the structural and physical requirements for rooms used for seclusion:

**103.9(1)** The room must meet and comply with all applicable building, fire, safety, and health codes and standards and with the other requirements of this rule.

**103.9(2)** The dimensions of the room shall be of adequate width, length, and height to allow the student to move about and recline safely and comfortably, considering the age, size, and physical and mental condition of the student being secluded. The interior of the room must be no less than 56 square feet, and the distance between opposing walls must be no less than 7 feet across.

**103.9(3)** The room must not be isolated from school employees or the facility.

**103.9(4)** Any wall that is part of the room must be part of the structural integrity of the room (not free-standing cells or portable units attached to the existing wall or floor).

**103.9(5)** The room must provide a means of continuous visual and auditory monitoring of the student.

**103.9(6)** The room must be adequately lighted with switches to control lighting located outside the room.

**103.9(7)** The room must be adequately ventilated with switches to control fans or other ventilation devices located outside the room.

**103.9(8)** The room must maintain a temperature within the normal human comfort range and consistent with the rest of the building with temperature controls located outside of the room.

**103.9(9)** The room must be clean and free of objects and fixtures that could be potentially dangerous to a student, including protruding, exposed, or sharp objects, exposed pipes, electrical wiring, or other objects in the room that could be used by students to harm themselves or to climb up a wall.

**103.9(10)** The room must contain no free-standing furniture.

**103.9(11)** The room must be constructed of materials safe for its intended use, including wall and floor coverings designed to prevent injury to the student. Interior finish of the seclusion room shall comply with the state and local building and fire codes and standards.

**103.9(12)** Doors must open outward. The door shall not be fitted with a lock unless it releases automatically when not physically held in the locked position by personnel on the outside of the door and permits the door to be opened from the inside. Doors, when fully open, shall not reduce the required corridor width by more than seven inches. Doors in any position shall not reduce the required width by more than one-half.

**103.9(13)** The room must be able to be opened from the inside immediately upon the release of a security mechanism held in place by constant human contact.

**103.9(14)** Windows, if any, must be transparent and made of unbreakable or shatterproof glass or plastic.

**103.9(15)** By July 1, 2021, schools must consult with appropriate state and local building, fire, safety, and health officials to ensure the room complies with all applicable codes and standards (for example, heating, ventilation, lighting, accessibility, dimensions, access, entry and exit, fire suppression, etc.), and maintain documentation of such consultation and compliance and approval.

**103.9(16)** Assuming approval pursuant to subrule 103.9(15), a school may continue to use a room that otherwise complies with this rule but for subrule 103.9(2) for a period of five years from January 20, 2021, or whenever the portion of the school containing the room is renovated or remodeled, whichever occurs first.

[ARC 5332C, IAB 12/16/20, effective 1/20/21]